

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the opportunity to submit this Supplemental Reply and further thanked for the indication that claims 3, 4, 11, and 12 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-18 are now pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 2, 5-10, and 13-16 presently stand rejected. Claims 1, 2, and 9 are amended herein. Claims 17-18 are new. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 6-9, and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,510,581 to Cohen.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element of the claim is found in a single reference. M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim.” M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1989)).

Amended independent claims 1 and 9 now recites, in pertinent parts, “a second output coupled to the third input of a next computational cell, **wherein the first output is coupled to logically AND the first input with the third input...**” Applicants respectfully submit that Cohen fails to disclose the aforementioned elements of claims 1 and 9.

Referring to FIG. 4 of Cohen, the Examiner cited **line 74** as corresponding to Applicants’ claimed first output (*Office Action* mailed 9/24/03, page 3, line 12), cited **line 28** as corresponding to Applicants’ claimed first input (*Office Action* mailed 9/24/03, page 3, line 2), and cited **line 18** as corresponding to Applicants’ claimed third input. Selection circuits 12 are illustrated in detail in FIG. 3 of Cohen. As clearly illustrated in both FIGs. 3 and 4, line 74 is not the result of logically ANDING line 18 with line 28. In fact, FIG. 3 illustrates no AND blocks and FIG. 4 only illustrates AND block 72, which logically ANDs line 74 with a data clock 22.

Consequently, Cohen fails to anticipate each and every element of amended claims 1 and 9, as required under M.P.E.P. § 2131. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant §102 rejection of claims 1 and 9 be withdrawn.

Regarding independent claim 13, please see the amendments and comments in the Reply mailed to the Examiner on December 24, 2003.

Dependent claims 2, 5-8, 10, and 14-16 are patentable over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103 and 102 rejections of claims 2, 5-8, 10, and 14-16 be withdrawn.

New Claims

Dependent claims 17 and 18 are newly presented. Applicants submit that Cohen fails to disclose the second input is not directly coupled to an adjacent one of the computational cells. Further, Applicants note that FIGs. 2 and 4, as originally filed, support this claim element. “[L]ack of literal basis in the specification for a negative limitation may not be sufficient to establish a prima facie case for lack of descriptive support.” M.P.E.P. § 2173.05(i). Further, an applicant may show “possession of the claimed invention by describing the claimed invention with all of its limitations using such descriptive means as words, structures, **figures, diagrams**, and formulas....” M.P.E.P. § 2163.02.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

March 12, 2004



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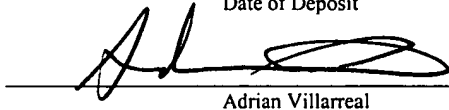
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March 12, 2004

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Adrian Villarreal

March 12, 2004

Date